

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	3
-------	---	----	---

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/669,779
Filing Date	September 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeffrey M. Gross
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	4002-3423/PC890.00

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.†	Document Number Number-Kind Code* (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
JB		4,839,215	06/13/1989	Starling et al.	
↓		4,950,296	08/21/1990	McIntyre	
		5,507,813	04/16/1996	Dowd et al.	
		5,549,679	08/27/1996	Kuslich	
		5,571,189	11/05/1996	Kuslich	
		5,571,190	11/05/1996	Ulrich et al.	
		5,676,146	10/14/1997	Scarborough	and Reexam Cert. of 4/18/00
		5,782,830	07/21/1998	Farris	
		5,888,222	03/30/1999	Coates et al.	
		5,895,426	04/30/1999	Scarborough et al.	
		5,899,939	05/04/1999	Boyce et al.	
		5,989,289	11/23/1999	Coates et al.	
		6,025,538	02/15/2000	Yaccarino, III	
		6,033,438	03/07/2000	Bianchi et al.	
		6,066,174	05/23/2000	Farris	
	↓		6,090,998	07/18/2000	Grooms et al.
		6,123,731	09/26/2000	Boyce et al.	
JB		6,146,420	11/14/2000	McKay	

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	†
		Country Code ² -Number ³ -Kind Code ⁴ (if known)				
JB		WO 99/29271	06/17/1999			
↓		WO 00/30568	06/02/2000			
		WO 01/49220	07/12/2001			
		WO 01/66048	09/13/2001			
		WO 01/70136	09/27/2001			
		WO 01/78798	10/25/2001			
↓		WO 02/056800	07/25/2002			
JB		WO 02/064180	28/22/2002			

Examiner
Signature

/Javier Blanco/

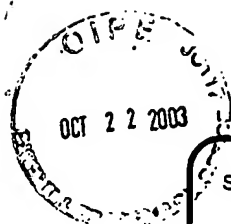
Date
Considered

05/15/2006

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**



WEMMH/SB/08A (4/03)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/669,779
Filing Date	September 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeffrey M. Gross
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	4002-3423/PC890.00

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
JB ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓		6,149,688	11/21/2000	Brosnahan et al.	
		6,200,347	03/13/2001	Anderson et al.	
		6,270,528	08/07/2001	McKay	
		6,294,041	09/25/2001	Boyce et al.	
		6,315,795	11/13/2001	Scarborough et al.	
		6,371,988	04/16/2002	Pafford et al.	
		6,379,385	04/30/2002	Kalas et al.	
		6,398,811	06/04/2002	McKay	
		6,409,765	06/25/2002	Bianchi et al.	
		6,423,095	07/23/2002	Van Hoeck et al.	
		6,458,158	10/01/2002	Anderson et al.	
		6,468,311	10/22/2002	Boyd et al.	
		6,503,277	01/07/2003	Bonutti	
		6,558,424	05/06/2003	Thalgott	
		6,610,065	08/26/2003	Branch et al.	
		2001/0020186	09/06/2001	Boyce et al.	
		2001/0031254	10/18/2001	Bianchi et al.	
JB		2001/0032017	10/18/2001	Alfaro et al.	

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
JB ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓		WO 02/065957	08/29/2002			
		WO 02/098329	12/12/2002			
		WO 02/098332	12/12/2002			
		WO 02/24122	03/28/2002			
		WO 02/24233	03/28/2002			
JB		WO 02/36049	05/10/2002			

Examiner
Signature

/Javier Blanco/

Date
Considered

05/15/2006

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

OCT 22 2003

WEMMH/SB/08A (4/03)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	3	of	3
-------	---	----	---

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/669,779
Filing Date	September 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeffrey M. Gross
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	4002-3423/PC890.00

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code² (if known)			
JB		2001/0039456	11/08/2001	Boyer, II et al.	
		2001/0039457	11/08/2001	Boyer, II et al.	
		2001/0039458	11/08/2001	Boyer, II et al.	
		2001/0041941	11/15/2001	Boyer, II et al.	
		2001/0049560	12/06/2001	Paul et al.	
		2001/0056302	12/27/2001	Boyer, II et al.	
		2002/0029082	03/07/2002	Muhanna	
		2002/0029084	03/07/2002	Paul et al.	
		2002/0036049	03/28/2002	Herzog et al.	
		2002/0045944	04/18/2002	Muhanna et al.	
		2002/0062153	05/23/2002	Paul et al.	
		2002/0082693	06/27/2002	Ahlgren	
		2002/0091447	07/11/2002	Shimp et al.	
		2002/0165612	11/07/2002	Gerber et al.	
		2003/0045934	03/06/2003	Bonutti	
		2003/0050708	03/13/2003	Bonutti	
		2003/0055504	03/20/2003	McKay et al.	
		2003/0069640	04/10/2003	Ferreira et al.	
		2003/0078661	04/24/2003	Houfburg	
JB		10/271,699		Boyd et al.	(filed 10/16/2002)

[illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

/Javier Blanco/

Date
Considered

05/15/2006

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.s. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
-------	---	----	---

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/669,779
Filing Date	September 24, 2003
First Named Inventor	Jeffrey M. Gross
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	4002-3423/PC890.00

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible][illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

/Javier Blanco/

Date
Considered

05/15/2006

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.